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John P. Weigand

Game Division-District No.4, Route No.4, North Platte, Nebraska

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CANINE TEETH IN TWO NEBRASKA MULE DEER

During the November 1963 deer hunting season in Nebraska, hunters were required to produce all deer bagged at compulsory check stations. Information regarding species, sex and age of all deer checked was recorded at each station. It was at the North Platte station that the author examined the deer described below. A total of 423 deer, of which 322 were mule deer, were examined at this station.

On 3 November 1963 John S. Meyers of North Platte bagged a male mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus hemionus* Rafinesque) that was 4½ years old, judged by examination of the dentition (Severinghaus, J. Wildlife Mgmt., 13: 195-216, 1949). The deer was shot approximately 15 miles N and 2 miles W of North Platte in Lincoln County. Upon cutting back the cheek skin to examine dentition on the lower jaw, I observed a pair of small canine teeth protruding from the maxillary. The teeth were not measured, but the exposed portion appeared to be about 5 mm in length. The teeth were loose and could be moved easily.

On 10 November 1963 Walter D. Kinzler of North Platte bagged a female mule deer, 2½ years old, in Box Elder Canyon about 12 miles SE of North Platte. I noted and measured a pair of maxillary canines, each 4 mm long on this animal.

Although maxillary canine teeth have been reported in white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) by several authors, only two previous observations of maxillary canines in mule deer have been recorded (Nordquist, California Fish and Game, 27: 39-40, 1941).—JOHN P. WEIGAND, *Game Division—District No. 4, Route No. 4, North Platte, Nebraska*. Accepted 10 January 1965.